

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

November 20, 2008

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:15 A.M., on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at North Haven Town Hall.

Members Present: Ralph Durante, William Gambardella, Walter Mann, Radha Prasad, Frank Maher, Thomas Dunham

Members Absent: Walter Nester, LuAnn Buono, Deborah Moore

Also Present: First Selectman Janet McCarty, Alan Fredricksen

The following materials were either mailed to the members prior to this meeting or distributed at this time:

1. Agenda – November 13, 2008
2. Minutes of Meeting held on September 25, 2008

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. Durante stated that the UI has committed funding for the corporation. Mr. Maher will work with UI representatives to find out the exact amount. Once the UI is on board, we can approach the other utility companies. We are trying to fund the corporation so that we can hire a full time person. The documents have been prepared. We need to get a Board of Directors.

### STEERING COMMITTEES - MONTOWESE

Mr. Durante stated that the Montowese Steering Committee meeting was very effective. He would like a commissioner to chair a committee. The other Steering Committees are Washington Avenue (upper and lower), State Street and Universal Drive. Mr. Durante said you can let him know by email which committee you would like to chair.

### VALLEY SERVICE ROAD

Mr. Mann spoke with Richard Steinberg back in early October. Mr. Durante said both he and First Selectman McCarty would like to meet with Mr. Steinberg. Mr. Mann said he would set up a meeting.

### TOP 50 TAXPAYERS

Mr. Sturtz will provide more detailed information to the Commission.

### EMPIRE PAVING TIF

Mr. Durante met with Skip Tucker, owner of Empire Paving to look over the property he is interested in buying (the old Newton building). Mr. Durante said that Empire Paving currently employs 150 people and is a strong company that is growing. He felt that the Town should invest in this company and support them in obtaining the TIF.

BREAKFAST OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup> – POST COMMENTS

Mr. Durante congratulated the Commission members on a job well done. He said that the breakfast was a success and that it keeps getting better. The only recommendation is to keep our invitation list updated. The next breakfast will take place in March.

POST OFFICE

Mr. Durante said he has met with postmaster a couple of times to discuss relocating the post office. It is in a bad location and is too small.

PORN SHOP

Mr. Durante is trying to broker a meeting with the owner of the property but has been unsuccessful. The Planning & Zoning Commission has just received a site plan. Mr. Fredricksen said that they need to post a bond and that site work is required. Mr. Durante said the Commission needs to be pro-active on this matter.

YACCARINO

Mr. Yaccarino has been denied by both the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning & Zoning Commission for motor vehicle repairs. The original intended use of this building was for an automobile use, but the operations were limited to those not requiring a DMV license.

UI – SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE

The UI held their first conference on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, Mr. Durante was unable to attend. Mr. Durante said that at the next conference he would like commission members to attend. Mr. Durante will keep the Commission posted on the next scheduled date.

ROSA DELAURO CONFERENCE

Ms. Buono attended the conference at the Holiday Inn in North Haven on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS MEETING

Mr. Nester is our representative. The committee meets once a month in North Haven.

The next Economic Development Commission meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2008.

OTHER

Mr. Mann announced that NHTV received a \$60,000 grant from the State to purchase new studio cameras.

First Selectman McCarty said that Libby's Italian Pastry Shop will be opening at 310 Washington Avenue.

Other new businesses include Kentucky Fried Chicken, Taco Bell (Washington Avenue) and Long Horn, a steak house at the old Tweeter building next to Raymour & Flanigan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission Mr. Gambardella moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 AM, seconded by Mr. Mann.